

IMPORTERS' QUESTIONNAIRE
NON-MALLEABLE CAST IRON PIPE FITTINGS FROM CHINA

Return completed questionnaire to:

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION
Office of Investigations, Room 615
500 E Street, SW, Washington, DC 20436

So as to be received by the Commission by no later than December 2, 2002

The information called for in this questionnaire is for use by the United States International Trade Commission in connection with its antidumping investigation concerning non-malleable cast iron pipe fittings from China (inv. No. 731-TA-990 (Final)). The information requested in the questionnaire is requested under the authority of the Tariff Act of 1930, title VII. This report is mandatory and failure to reply as directed can result in a subpoena or other order to compel the submission of records or information in your possession (19 U.S.C. § 1333(a)).

Name of firm _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip code _____
World Wide Web address _____

Has your firm imported non-malleable or ductile cast iron pipe fittings, whether under or over 6 inches, or flanged ductile pipe fittings (as defined in the instruction booklet) from any country at any time since January 1, 1999?

☐

NO (Sign the certification below and promptly return only this page of the questionnaire to the Commission)

☐

YES (Read the instruction booklet carefully, complete all parts of the questionnaire, sign the certification, and return the entire questionnaire to the Commission)

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned certifies that the information herein supplied in response to this questionnaire is complete and correct to the best of his/her knowledge and belief and understands that the information submitted is subject to audit and verification by the Commission.

Your signature on the certification below will also serve as consent for the Commission, and its employees and contract personnel, to use the information you provide in this questionnaire and throughout this investigation in any other import-injury investigations conducted by the Commission on the same or similar merchandise. If you do not consent to such use, please note the certification accordingly.

The undersigned acknowledges that information submitted in this questionnaire response and throughout this investigation may be used by the Commission, its employees, and contract personnel who are acting in the capacity of Commission employees, for developing or maintaining the records of this investigation or related proceedings for which this information is submitted, or in internal audits and investigations relating to the programs and operations of the Commission pursuant to 5 U.S.C. Appendix 3. I understand that all contract personnel will sign non-disclosure agreements.

Name and Title of Authorized Official

Date

Signature of Authorized Official

() _____
Phone

() _____
Fax

PART I.—GENERAL QUESTIONS

The questions in this questionnaire have been reviewed with market participants to ensure that issues of concern are adequately addressed and that data requests are sufficient, meaningful, and as limited as possible. Public reporting burden for this questionnaire is estimated to average 20 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering the data needed, and completing and reviewing the questionnaire. Send comments regarding the accuracy of this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Office of Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street, SW., Washington, DC 20436.

- I-1. Please report below the actual number of hours required and the cost to your firm of preparing the reply to this questionnaire and completing the form.

_____ hours _____ dollars

- I-2. Provide the name and address of establishment(s) covered by this questionnaire (see page 3 of the instruction booklet for reporting guidelines). If your firm is publicly traded, please specify the stock exchange and trading symbol.

- I-3. Is your firm owned, in whole or in part, by any other firm?

☐ No ☐ Yes—List the following information.

<u>Firm name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Extent of ownership</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

- I-4. Does your firm have any related firms, either domestic or foreign, which are engaged in importing non-malleable or ductile cast iron pipe fittings from China into the United States or which are engaged in exporting non-malleable or ductile cast iron pipe fittings from China to the United States?

☐ No ☐ Yes—List the following information.

<u>Firm name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

PART I. GENERAL QUESTIONS—Continued

I-5. Does your firm have any related firms, either domestic or foreign, which are engaged in the production of non-malleable or ductile cast iron pipe fittings?

☐ No ☐ Yes—List the following information.

<u>Firm name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

I-6. Please indicate the nature of your firm's importing operations on non-malleable or ductile cast iron pipe fittings. More than one answer may be applicable.

<input type="checkbox"/> Importer of record	<input type="checkbox"/> Takes title to the imported product(s)
<input type="checkbox"/> Consignee of the imported product(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Customs broker or freight forwarder

I-7. If your firm is an importer of record of non-malleable or ductile cast iron pipe fittings but is **not** the consignee, please list the consignees below (company name, address, telephone, and individual to contact).

I-8. Please indicate whether your firm enters non-malleable or ductile cast iron pipe fittings into, or withdraws such merchandise from, foreign trade zones or bonded warehouses.

Foreign trade zones	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Bonded warehouses	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes

I-9. Please indicate whether your firm imports non-malleable or ductile cast iron pipe fittings under the TIB (temporary importation under bond) program.

☐ No ☐ Yes

I-10. To your knowledge, have the products subject to this investigation been the subject of any other import relief investigations in the United States or in any other countries?

☐ No ☐ Yes—Please specify. _____

PART II.—TRADE AND RELATED INFORMATION

Further information on this part of the questionnaire can be obtained from Valerie Newkirk (202-205-3190). **Supply all data requested on a calendar-year basis.**

II-1. Who should be contacted regarding the requested trade and related information?

Company contact: _____
Name and title

_____ Phone No. _____ E-mail address

II-2. Has your firm experienced any plant openings, relocations, expansions, acquisitions, consolidations, closures, or prolonged shutdowns because of strikes or equipment failure, or any other change in the character of your operations or organization relating to the importation of non-malleable or ductile cast iron pipe fittings since January 1, 1999?

☐ No ☐ Yes—Supply details as to the time, nature, and significance of such changes.

II-3. Has your firm imported or arranged for the importation of non-malleable or ductile cast iron pipe fittings from China for delivery after September 30, 2002?

☐ No ☐ Yes—Indicate when such orders are to be delivered and the quantities involved.

II-4. If your firm also produces non-malleable or ductile cast iron pipe fittings in the United States, please indicate your reasons for importing this product. If your reasons differ by source, please elaborate.

PART II.—TRADE AND RELATED INFORMATION—Continued

II-5. **IMPORTS BY SOURCE.**—Report your firm's imports and your firm's shipments and inventories of each of the specified non-malleable or ductile cast iron pipe fittings imported by your firm during the specified periods. (See definitions on page 4 of the instruction booklet.) **Report separately for China and for all other sources combined.** Photocopy as many pages as you need and identify the country and the product for which you are reporting in the space provided.

☐ Subject non-malleable pipe fittings
 ☐ Subject ductile pipe fittings
 ☐ Flanged ductile pipe fittings
 ☐ Non-malleable/ductile pipe fittings with an I.D. over 6 inches
 ☐ Non-malleable/ductile grooved pipe fittings

☐ China
 ☐ All other sources combined¹

(Quantity in short tons, value in \$1,000)					
Item	Calendar years			January-September	
	1999	2000	2001	2001	2002
Beginning-of-period inventories (<i>quantity</i>)					
Imports: ²					
Quantity of imports					
Value of imports					
U.S. SHIPMENTS:					
Commercial shipments:					
Quantity					
Value					
Internal consumption/company transfers:					
Quantity					
Value ³					
Export shipments: ⁴					
Quantity					
Value					
End-of-period inventories ⁵ (<i>quantity</i>)					
U.S. shipments to distributors (<i>quantity</i>)					
U.S. shipments to end users:					
Fire-prevention sprinkler system installation firms (<i>quantity</i>)					
Others (specify) _____ (<i>quantity</i>)					
¹ Please identify these sources: _____					
² Please identify the foreign producers, if known: _____					
³ Sales to related firms (including internal consumption) must be valued at fair market value. In the event that you use a different basis for valuing these sales within your company, please specify that basis (e.g., cost, cost plus, etc.) and provide value data using that basis for 1999, 2000, and 2001: _____					
⁴ Identify your principal export markets: _____					
⁵ Reconciliation of data. —Please note that the quantities reported above should reconcile as follows: beginning-of-period inventories, plus imports, less total shipments, equals end-of-period inventories. Do the data reported reconcile?					
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No—Please explain: _____					

PART III.-PRICING AND RELATED INFORMATION

Further information on this part of the questionnaire can be obtained from Amelia Preece (202-205-3250).

III-1. Who should be contacted regarding the requested pricing and related information?

Company contact: _____
Name and title

_____ Phone No. _____ E-mail address

Section III-A.-PRICE DATA

This section requests quarterly quantity and value data, f.o.b. your U.S. point of shipment, concerning your firm's U.S. commercial shipments to unrelated U.S. customers of the following products imported from China during January 1999-September 2002:

Product 1.–Non-malleable, grey, cast iron pipe fittings meeting ASME specification, black, threaded-end, one and 1/4 inch nominal inside diameter, 90 degree elbow.

Product 2.–Ductile cast iron pipe fittings for the same use as non-malleable, grey, cast iron pipe fittings meeting ASME specification, black, threaded-end, one and 1/4 inch nominal inside diameter, 90 degree elbow.

Product 3.–Non-malleable cast iron pipe fittings meeting ASTM specification, black, threaded-end, one inch nominal inside diameter, straight tee.

Product 4.–Ductile cast iron pipe fittings for the same use as non-malleable cast iron pipe fittings meeting ASTM specification, black, threaded-end, one inch nominal inside diameter, straight tee.

Product 5.–Non-malleable cast iron pipe fittings meeting ASTM specification, black, threaded-end, one inch nominal inside diameter, iron elbow.

Product 6.–Ductile cast iron pipe fittings for the same use non-malleable cast iron pipe fittings meeting ASTM specification, black, threaded-end, one inch nominal inside diameter, iron elbow.

Product 7.–Non-malleable cast iron pipe fittings meeting ASTM specification, black, threaded-end, one inch by one and a half inch nominal inside diameter, iron reducer.

Product 8.–Ductile cast iron pipe fittings for the same use as non-malleable cast iron pipe fittings meeting ASTM specification, black, threaded-end, one inch by one and a half inch nominal inside diameter, iron reducer.

PART III. PRICING AND RELATED INFORMATION—Continued

Section III-A. PRICE DATA—Continued

COPY THIS PAGE AS NECESSARY. Complete a separate page for each of the specified products imported from China and sold by your firm. In addition record separately sales to distributors and to end users.

Product 1 ☐

Product 2 ☐

Product 3 ☐

Product 4 ☐

Product 5 ☐

Product 6 ☐

Product 7 ☐

Product 8 ☐

<i>(Quantity in number of pieces, value in dollars)</i>				
	Sales to distributors		Sales to end users	
Period of shipment	Quantity	F.o.b. value ¹	Quantity	F.o.b. value ¹
1999:				
January-March				
April-June				
July-September				
October-December				
2000:				
January-March				
April-June				
July-September				
October-December				
2001:				
January-March				
April-June				
July-September				
October-December				
2002:				
January-March				
April-June				
July-September				
¹ F.o.b. your U.S.-point of shipment(s) (gross sales value less all discounts, rebates, allowances, prepaid freight, and the value of returned goods).				

PART III. PRICING AND RELATED INFORMATION—Continued

Section III-B. PRICE-RELATED QUESTIONS

The following questions refer to both nonmalleable and ductile pipe fittings. If your response to any question differs depending on the type of fitting (i.e., nonmalleable or ductile), please note this in your response.

- III-B-1. Please describe how your firm determines the prices that it charges for sales of non-malleable/ductile cast iron pipe fittings (transaction by transaction negotiation, contracts for multiple shipments, set price lists, etc.). If your firm issues price lists, please include a copy of a recent price list with your submission. If your price list is large, please submit sample pages.
- _____
- _____
- III-B-2. Please describe your firm's discount policy (quantity discounts, annual total volume discounts, etc.).
- _____
- _____
- III-B-3. What are your firm's typical sales terms for non-malleable/ductile cast iron pipe fittings imported from China (e.g., 2/10 net 30 days)? _____ On what basis are your prices of such product usually quoted (e.g., f.o.b. port of entry, or delivered)? _____
- III-B-4. Approximately what percentage of your firm's sales of non-malleable/ductile cast iron pipe fittings imported from China are on a contract (_____ percent) vs. spot sales (_____ percent) basis? If you sell on a contract basis, please answer the following questions with respect to provisions of a typical contract.
- (a) What is the average duration of a contract? _____
- (b) How frequently are contracts renegotiated? _____
- (c) Does the contract fix quantity, price, or both? _____
- (d) Does the contract have a meet or release provision? _____
- (e) What are the standard quantity requirements, if any? _____
- (f) What is the price premium for sub-minimum shipments? ____ percent
- III-B-5. What is the average lead time between a customer's order and the date of delivery for your firm's sales of non-malleable/ductile cast iron pipe fittings? _____

PART III.—PRICING AND RELATED INFORMATION—Continued

Section III-B.—PRICE-RELATED QUESTIONS—Continued

III-B-6. What is the approximate percentage of the total delivered cost of non-malleable/ductile cast iron pipe fittings that is accounted for by U.S. inland transportation costs? _____ percent. Who generally arranges the transportation to your customers' locations? Your firm _____ or purchaser _____ (check one). What proportion of your sales occur within 100 miles of your storage facility or the port of entry? _____ percent. 101 to 1,000 miles? _____ percent. Over 1,000 miles? _____ percent.

III-B-7. What is the geographic market area in the United States served by your firm's imports of non-malleable/ductile cast iron pipe fittings from China?

☐ Continental U.S. ☐ U.S., including Alaska and Hawaii ☐ Northeast

☐ Northwest ☐ Midwest ☐ Southeast ☐ Southwest

Other (describe)_____

III-B-8. What other products may be substitutes for non-malleable/ductile cast iron pipe fittings?

III-B-9. Describe the end uses of the non-malleable/ductile cast iron pipe fittings that you import from China. For each end use product, what percentage of the total cost is accounted for by non-malleable/ductile cast iron pipe fittings?

III-B-10. How has the demand within the United States (and outside the United States if known) for non-malleable/ductile cast iron pipe fittings changed since January 1, 1999? What were the principal factors affecting changes in demand?

III-B-11. Have there been any significant changes in the product range or marketing of non-malleable/ductile cast iron pipe fittings in the past five years?

☐ No ☐ Yes—Please describe.

PART III. PRICING AND RELATED INFORMATION—Continued

Section III-B. PRICE-RELATED QUESTIONS—Continued

- III-B-12. Are non-malleable/ductile cast iron pipe fittings with an inside diameter of less than 6 inches used in the same applications as non-malleable/ductile cast iron pipe fittings with an inside diameter of greater than 6 inches? Yes _____ No _____. If no, please discuss the factors that preclude or limit substitution.

- III-B-13. Does your firm sell non-malleable/ductile cast iron pipe fittings over the internet?

☐ No ☐ Yes—Please describe, noting the estimated percentage of your firm's total sales of non-malleable/ductile cast iron pipe fittings in 2001 accounted for by internet sales.

- III-B-14. Are the U.S.-produced and imported non-malleable/ductile cast iron pipe fittings from China used interchangeably (i.e., can they physically be used in the same applications)?

☐ Yes ☐ No—Please explain.

- III-B-15. Are the U.S.-produced and NONSUBJECT imported non-malleable/ductile cast iron pipe fittings (i.e., product imported from countries/firms not subject to this investigation) generally used interchangeably?

☐ Yes ☐ No—Please explain, by country.

- III-B-16. Are NONSUBJECT imported non-malleable/ductile cast iron pipe fittings and imported non-malleable/ductile cast iron pipe fittings from China used interchangeably?

☐ Yes ☐ No—Please explain, by country.

PART III.—PRICING AND RELATED INFORMATION—Continued

Section III-B.—PRICE-RELATED QUESTIONS—Continued

III-B-17. Are there any differences in product characteristics or sales conditions between U.S.-produced non-malleable/ductile cast iron pipe fittings and non-malleable/ductile cast iron pipe fittings imported from China that are a significant factor in your firm's sales of non-malleable/ductile cast iron pipe fittings?

☐ No ☐ Yes—Please describe any such advantages or disadvantages of the domestic product vis-a-vis the imported product (e.g., quality, availability, transportation network, product range, technical support, etc.).

III-B-18. Are there any differences in product characteristics or sales conditions between U.S.-produced non-malleable/ductile cast iron pipe fittings and NONSUBJECT imported non-malleable/ductile cast iron pipe fittings that are a significant factor in your firm's sales of non-malleable/ductile cast iron pipe fittings?

☐ No ☐ Yes—Please describe any such advantages or disadvantages of the domestic product vis-a-vis the nonsubject imported product, by country of origin.

III-B-19. Are there any differences in product characteristics or sales conditions between NONSUBJECT imported non-malleable/ductile cast iron pipe fittings and imported non-malleable/ductile cast iron pipe fittings from China that are a significant factor in your firm's sales of non-malleable/ductile cast iron pipe fittings?

☐ No ☐ Yes—Please describe, by country, any such advantages or disadvantages of the nonsubject imported product vis-a-vis the imported product from China.

PART III. PRICING AND RELATED INFORMATION—Continued**Section III-C. CUSTOMER IDENTIFICATION**

Please provide the names and addresses of your firm's 10 largest customers for non-malleable/ductile cast iron pipe fittings imported from China during January 1999-September 2002. Please also provide the name and telephone number of a contact person and the share of the quantity of your firm's total imports of non-malleable/ductile cast iron pipe fittings from China that each of these customers accounted for in 2001.

No.	Customer's name	Street address, state, and zip code (not P.O. box)	Contact person	Area code and telephone number	Share of 2001 sales (%)
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					

PART IV--DOMESTIC LIKE PRODUCT QUESTIONS

IV-1. The following questions relate to the degree of similarity or the differences between the following types of **ductile and non-malleable cast iron pipe fittings**. (See definitions on page 4 of the instruction booklet). Please report separately for each product combination, photocopying this page as necessary and checking the product pair for which you are reporting:

- _____ (1) subject ductile fittings, and (2) subject non-malleable fittings,
- _____ (3) flanged ductile fittings, and (4) flanged non-malleable fittings, and
- _____ (5) fittings 6 inches and under in inside diameter (I.D.), and (6) fittings over 6 inches I.D.
- _____ (7) non-malleable/ductile grooved fittings, and (8) subject ductile/non-malleable fittings

Please describe any similarities and/or differences in the physical characteristics of the products.

Please describe any similarities and/or differences in the uses of the products.

Please describe the degree of interchangeability, if any, between the products (i.e., are they used in the same or similar applications).

Please describe any similarities and/or differences in the channels of distribution for the products.

Please describe, to the best of your knowledge, any similarities and/or differences in customer and producer perceptions of the products. Supply promotional/advertising materials supporting such similarities/differences.

Please explain whether the products are made in common (i.e., the same or shared) manufacturing facilities, using common production processes, and production employees.

Please describe any similarities and/or differences in the prices of the products.

PART IV--DOMESTIC LIKE PRODUCT QUESTIONS--Continued

IV-2. Can you identify any domestic production of ductile cast iron pipe fittings that is "like" the imported subject ductile cast iron pipe fittings (as defined on page 4 of the instruction booklet)?

☐ Yes--Please list the names, addresses and contact information of the domestic producers in the space below and contact Valerie Newkirk (202-205-3190) immediately.

☐ No--Please describe in detail below which **U.S.-produced product** you consider to be most "similar in characteristics and uses with" the imported subject ductile cast iron pipe fittings. Please also provide the names and addresses of the U.S. producers of this product and contact Valerie Newkirk immediately.
